

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29 and 31 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, and 32 are amended herein so as to be rewritten in independent form. No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Claims 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, and 32 are pending and under consideration. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Entry Of Response Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Applicant requests entry of this Rule 116 Response and Request for Reconsideration because at least certain of the rejected claims are canceled thereby at least reducing the issues for appeal; it is believed that the amendment of claims 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, and 32 puts this application into condition for allowance as suggested by the Examiner; and the amendments of claims should not entail any further search by the Examiner since no new features are being added or no new issues are being raised.

The MPEP sets forth in §714.12 that "[a]ny amendment that would place the case either in condition for allowance or in better form for appeal may be entered," and further articulates that the reason for any non-entry should be explained expressly in the Advisory Action.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner indicates that the subject matter of dependent claims 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, and 32 is allowable. (Action at page 2). Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

In item 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner objects to claims 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, and 32 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. (Action at page 2).

Claims 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, and 32 are amended herein so as to be rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Withdrawal of the objection is requested.

CONCLUSION

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot. And further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. Thus, there being no further

outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited. At a minimum, this Amendment should be entered at least for purposes of Appeal as it either clarifies and/or narrows the issues for consideration by the Board.

If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited and possibly concluded by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss any such remaining issues.

If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date:

February 13, 2007

By:

Paul W. Bobowiec

Paul W. Bobowiec
Registration No. 47,431

1201 New York Ave, N.W., 7th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501